

Listing of Claims:

The claims have not been amended by way of this Reply. Nevertheless, a current listing of the pending claims is provided for reference:

1. (Previously presented) A computer program product embodied on a tangible, computer-readable medium, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to:

provide a user with access to an instant messaging service made available by an instant messaging host system;

receive a request from a user to upload and store, on the instant messaging host system, one or more computer files stored on a local client computer;

in response to receiving the request, upload and store on the instant messaging host system the one or more computer files from the local client computer;

display an instant messaging graphical user interface that enables the user to engage in instant messaging communications sessions using the instant messaging service made available by the instant messaging host system, the instant messaging graphical user interface comprising:

a single window that includes:

a contacts list listing one or more other users of the instant messaging service selected by the user as significant to the user, the contacts list being configured to make online presence information for the other users perceivable to the user and to enable the user to initiate communication sessions with the other users; and

a file list listing a collection of computer files, including the one or more computer files that the user has uploaded and stored on the instant messaging host system; and

enable the user to access an individual computer file from the collection of computer files that the user has uploaded and stored on the instant messaging host system by selecting the individual computer file from the file list.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 1, further comprising instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display a supplemental interface related to a particular computer file listed in the file list, wherein the supplemental interface enables the user to grant access to the particular computer file to one of the other users of the instant messaging service listed in the contacts list.

4. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 1, further comprising instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display a list of other users to whom the user has granted access to one of the computer files listed in the file list.

5. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 1, further comprising instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display a list of other users to whom the user has granted the ability to access and modify one of the computer files listed in the file list.

6. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 1, wherein the instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display an instant messaging graphical user interface include instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display an instant messaging graphical user interface that includes a file list within which a computer file is represented by an icon.

7. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 6, wherein the instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to enable the user to access an individual computer file from the collection of computer files that the user has uploaded and stored on the instant messaging host system by selecting the individual computer file from the file list include instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to:

receive an indication of a selection by the user of the individual computer file from the file list; and

in response to receiving the indication of the selection of the individual computer file, activate an application to open the computer file for the user.

8. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 1, wherein at least one computer file listed in the file list is a data file containing text that can be accessed and modified by the user.

9. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 8 further comprising instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to:

receive an instruction from the user to grant one of the other users of the instant messaging service listed in the contacts list permission to access and modify the at least one computer file; and

enable the other user to whom permission to access and modify the at least one computer file has been granted to access and modify the at least one computer file.

10. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 1, wherein:  
the instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display an instant messaging graphical user interface comprising a window include instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display an instant messaging graphical user interface comprising a window that further includes a links list listing one or more links to web pages that have been selected by the user for inclusion in the links list; and

the computer program product further includes instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to enable the user to access an individual web page by selecting the link to the individual web page from the links list.

11. (Previously presented) A method comprising:  
providing, with an instant messaging host system, an instant messaging service to a user;  
receiving a request from the user to upload and store on the instant messaging host system one or more computer files stored on a local client computer;

in response to receiving the request, uploading and storing, on the instant messaging host system, the one or more computer files;

enabling display, to the user, of an instant messaging graphical user interface that enables the user to access the instant messaging service provided by the instant messaging host system, the instant messaging graphical user interface comprising:

a window that includes:

a contacts list listing one or more other users of the instant messaging service selected by the user as significant to the user, the contacts list being configured to make online presence information for the other users perceivable to the user and to enable the user to initiate communication sessions with the other users, and

a file list listing a collection of computer files, including the one or more computer files, that the user has uploaded and stored on the instant messaging host system; and

enabling the user to access an individual computer file from the collection of computer files that the user has uploaded and stored on the instant messaging host system by selecting the individual computer file from the file list.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

receiving an instruction from the user to grant access to one of the other users of the instant messaging service listed in the contacts list to a particular one of the computer files listed in the file list; and

in response to receiving the instruction to grant access to the particular computer file to the other user, granting access to the particular computer file to the other user.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising enabling display of a list of other users to whom the user has granted access to one of the computer files that are listed in the file list.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

enabling display of a supplemental interface related to a particular one of the computer files listed in the file list; and

enabling display, in the supplemental interface, of a list of other users who have been granted access by the user to the particular computer file.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the contacts list includes a list of other users who can access and modify a computer file that is listed in the file list.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:  
enabling display of a supplemental interface related to a particular one of the other users listed in the contacts list; and

enabling display, in the supplemental interface, of a list of computer files to which the particular other user has been granted access by the user.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein a computer file is represented by an icon in the file list.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein enabling the user to access an individual computer file from the collection of computer files that the user has uploaded and stored on the instant messaging host system by selecting the individual computer file from the file list includes:

receiving an indication of a selection by the user of the individual computer file from the file list; and

in response to receiving the indication of the selection of the individual computer file, activating an application to open the computer file for the user.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein at least one computer file listed in the file list is a data file containing text that can be modified by the user.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein:

at least one computer file listed in the file list is a data file containing text that can be accessed and modified; and

the method further comprises:

receiving an instruction from the user to grant one of the other users of the instant messaging service listed in the contacts list permission to access and modify the at least one computer file; and

enabling the other user to whom permission to access and modify the at least one computer file has been granted to access and modify the at least one computer file.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein:

enabling display of an instant messaging graphical user interface comprising a window includes enabling display of an instant messaging graphical user interface comprising a window that includes a links list listing one or more links to web pages that have been selected by the user for inclusion in the links list; and

the method further comprises enabling the user to access an individual web page by selecting the link to the individual web page from the links list.

22. (Previously presented) A computer program product embodied on a tangible, computer-readable medium, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to:

enable invocation of a web browser;

display an instant messaging graphical user interface between a client system used by a user to access an instant messaging service and a host system of the instant messaging service, the instant messaging graphical user interface comprising:

a contacts list listing one or more other users of the instant messaging service selected by the user as significant to the user, the contacts list being configured to make online presence information for the other users perceivable to the user and to enable the user to initiate communication sessions with the other users, and

a links list listing one or more links to web pages that have been selected by the user for inclusion in the links list;

enable the user to access an individual web page from the links list by selecting the link to the individual web page from the links list;

enable the user to share links listed in the links list with one or more of the other users listed in the contacts list;

receive an indication of a selection by the user of a particular link to a web page from the links list; and

if the web browser is not presently invoked when the indication of the selection of the particular link is received, trigger invocation of the web browser and cause the web page corresponding to the particular link to be rendered within the web browser in response to receiving the indication of the selection of the particular link.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 22 wherein the instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display an instant messaging graphical user interface include instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display an instant messaging graphical user interface that further includes a list of other users with whom a link has been shared.

25. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 22 further comprising instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to store the links list on the host system.

26. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 22, wherein the instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display an instant messaging graphical user interface include instructions that, when executed, cause a computer to display an instant messaging graphical user interface that includes a links list within which a link is represented by an icon.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

- providing an instant messaging service to a user;
- displaying an instant messaging graphical user interface that enables the user to access the instant messaging service, wherein the instant messaging graphical user interface comprises:
  - a contacts list listing one or more other users of the instant messaging service selected by the user as significant to the user, the contacts list being configured to make online presence information for the other users perceivable to the user and to enable the user to initiate communication sessions with the other users, and
  - a links list listing one or more links to web pages that have been selected by the user for inclusion in the links list;
- enabling the user to access an individual web page from the links list by selecting the link to the individual web page from the links list;
- enabling the user to share links listed in the links list with one or more of the other users listed in the contacts list;
- enabling invocation of a web browser;
- receiving an indication of a selection by the user of a particular link to a web page from the links list;
- if the web browser is not presently invoked when the indication of the selection of the particular link is received, invoking the web browser and causing the web page corresponding to the particular link to be rendered within the web browser in response to receiving the indication of the selection of the particular link;
- receiving, from the user, a request to share another link listed in the links list with a particular other user listed in the contacts list; and
- in response to receiving the request to share the other link with the particular other user, initiating a transfer of the other link to the particular other user.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, further comprising displaying a list of other users with whom the user has shared a link listed in the links list.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, further comprising:  
displaying a supplemental interface related to a particular one of the links listed in the links list; and  
in the supplemental interface, displaying a list of other users with whom the user has shared the particular link.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, further comprising:  
displaying a supplemental interface related to a particular one of the other users listed in the contacts list; and  
in the supplemental interface, displaying a list of links listed in the links list that the user has shared with the particular user.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein a link is represented by an icon in the links list.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein granting access to the particular computer file to the other user includes updating another instant messaging graphical user interface displayed to the other user to reflect that the other user has been granted access to the particular computer file.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising enabling invocation of a web browser, wherein enabling the user to access an individual web page by selecting the link to the individual web page from the links list includes:  
receiving an indication of a selection by the user of the link to the individual web page from the links list; and

if the web browser is not presently invoked when the indication of the selection of the link is received, triggering invocation of the web browser and causing the individual web page to be rendered within the web browser in response to receiving the indication of the selection of the link.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising:  
receiving, from the user, a request to share a link listed in the links list with another user listed in the contacts list; and  
in response to receiving the request to share the link listed in the links list with the other user, initiating a transfer of the link to the other user.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28 wherein:  
the contacts list includes a screen name associated with the particular other user;  
receiving, from the user, a request to share another link listed in the links list with a particular other user listed in the contacts list includes receiving an indication that the user dragged-and-dropped the other link from the links list onto the screen name associated with the particular other user included within the contacts list; and  
initiating a transfer of the other link to the particular other user includes initiating a transfer of an instant message that includes the other link to the particular other user.